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| REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL Address to: Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 | Application Number | 09/628,750 |
| | Filing Date | July 31, 2000 |
| | First Named Inventor | HIRANO, T. |
| | Art Unit | 2879 |
| | Examiner Name | SANTIAGO, M. |
| | Attorney Docket No. | 09792909-0391 |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on ____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on ____
- iii. ☐ Other ____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other ____

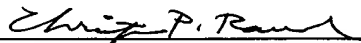
2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of ____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) required)
- b. ☐ Other ____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

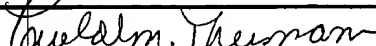
- a. ☒ In connection with this application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit overpayments or to charge any additional fee required to Deposit Account No. **19-3140**.
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other ____
- b. ☒ The enclosed credit card payment form to charge the amount of **\$770.00** covers the total claim fee and other applicable fees.

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

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| 14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Customer No. 26263 |  |
| Dated: May 24, 2004 | Christopher P. Rauch, (Registration No. 45.034) |

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Name (Print/Type) | Paula M. Theismann |
| Signature |  |
| Date | May 24, 2004 |

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